

PRESS RELEASE

Erik C. Peterson
United States Attorney
Western District of Wisconsin
(608) 264-5158
TTY (608) 264-5006
www.usdoj.gov/usao/wi

For Immediate Release

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Contact Person

Assistant U.S. Attorney
Assigned to Each Case

FEDERAL GRAND JURY RETURNS INDICTMENTS

Madison, Wisconsin -- A federal grand jury in the Western District of Wisconsin, sitting in Madison, returned the following indictments today. You are advised that a charge is merely an accusation and that a defendant is presumed innocent until and unless proven guilty.

TEN CHARGED WITH BANK FRAUD AND PASSING COUNTERFEITED CHECKS

Ten people were indicted on charges of bank fraud and uttering counterfeited checks. The individuals charged include:

1. Luis Cordoba-Gomez, 32, of De Kalb, Illinois;
2. Angel Zavala Ramirez, aka Carlos Garcia-Garcia, 25, of Chicago, Illinois;
3. Pablo Baltazar-Morale, aka Sergio Lopez-Luna, 23, of Chicago;
4. Lucino Mendoza-Flores, 23, of Chicago;
5. Osiel Garay-Paez, aka Alex Borgetty, 26, of De Kalb;
6. Saul Duarte, aka Carlos DeLosSantos-Lopez, 31, of Rockford, Illinois;
7. Eliu Villicana-Mancilla, 22, of De Kalb;
8. Odilon Fernandez-Martinez, aka Marcos Martinez-Gomez, 22, of Rockford;
9. Daniel Avilla, aka Daniel Velasquez, 23, of Chicago; and
10. Gabriel Castaneda-Luna, aka Felipe Diaz, 22, address unknown

The indictment alleges that the defendants executed a scheme to defraud financial institutions by means of fraudulent pretenses. The financial institutions include First Banking Center, Citizens National Bank, and Amcore Bank, all located in Darlington, Wisconsin. The indictment alleges that the defendants obtained counterfeited paychecks from Mexican Cheese Producers, Inc. of Monroe, Wisconsin, and cashed them.

The indictment charges each of the ten defendants with 19 counts of bank fraud, by cashing 19 counterfeit checks, each in the amount of approximately \$1,000, at the three

financial institutions in Darlington. The indictment also charges each of the ten defendants with 19 counts of uttering counterfeited securities of an organization.

If convicted, the defendants face a maximum penalty of 30 years in federal prison on each bank fraud count, and 10 years on each counterfeit securities count. The charges against the defendants are the result of an investigation by the Darlington Police Department, the Lafayette County Sheriff's Department, the Lafayette County District Attorney's Office, the Federal Bureau of Investigation, and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney John W. Vaudreuil.

MAN CHARGED WITH WIRE FRAUD

John E. Paul, 51, of Madison, Wisconsin, is charged with 25 counts of wire fraud. The indictment alleges that during the period from April 4, 2006 to December 28, 2006, he listed coins for sale on the online auction site eBay, Inc., and that he received more than \$171,000 from individuals in response, but never shipped any coins to any of the purchasers.

If convicted, Paul faces a maximum penalty of 20 years in federal prison on each count. The charges against the defendant are the result of an investigation by the Madison Police Department and the U.S. Postal Inspection Service. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Grant C. Johnson.

RICE LAKE MAN CHARGED WITH GUN CRIME

Arthur A. Garcia, 29, Rice Lake, is charged with being an unlawful user of marijuana in possession of firearms. Garcia was charged earlier with this offense by a complaint filed in U.S. District Court on May 2, 2007. His arraignment is scheduled for May 11, 2007, at 1:00 p.m.

On April 30, 2007, the Rice Lake Police Department executed a no-knock search warrant at Garcia's home in Rice Lake. According to the information in the search warrant, Garcia had marijuana and a large number of weapons in his house. The warrant also established that Garcia frequently smokes marijuana. In Garcia's home, officers recovered two .44 caliber pistols; a .223 caliber rifle; a .45 caliber pistol; a 12 gauge shotgun; and a .50 caliber rifle. Receipts for some of the firearms, in Garcia's name, were found in a lock box. Officers also recovered hundreds of rounds of various caliber ammunition; a bullet proof vest; a skull bong with burnt residue on it (which tested positive for THC); two rolled marijuana cigarettes (which tested positive for THC); and approximately ten grams of a substance that tested positive for THC.

If convicted, Garcia faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. The

charge against Garcia is the result of an investigation conducted by the Rice Lake Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms and Explosives. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Rita M. Rumbelow.

INMATE CHARGED WITH ASSAULT

Bruce Withorn, 27, an inmate of the Federal Correctional Institution in Oxford, Wisconsin, is charged with assaulting another inmate with a dangerous weapon, with intent to do bodily harm. The indictment alleges that the assault occurred on December 6, 2006.

If convicted, Withorn faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation by the Federal Bureau of Investigation and the Bureau of Prisons. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Laura Przybylinski Finn.

MADISON MAN CHARGED WITH GUN CRIME

Jeffery L. Loranger, 59, of Madison, Wisconsin, is charged with being a felon in possession of a firearm. The indictment alleges that on January 30, 2007, the defendant possessed a 12 gauge shotgun.

If convicted, Loranger faces a maximum penalty of 10 years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation by the Dane County Narcotics and Gang Task Force. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Grant C. Johnson.

LOGANVILLE MAIL CARRIER CHARGED WITH DESTROYING MAIL

Harlan E. Westedt, 57, of Loganville, Wisconsin, is charged with destroying, detaining, and opening letters, postal cards, and mail entrusted to him as a U.S. Postal Service employee. The indictment alleges that he took these actions from Spring 2006 to December 5, 2006.

If convicted, Westedt faces a maximum penalty of five years in federal prison. The charge against him is the result of an investigation by the U.S. Postal Service, Office of Inspector General and the Sauk County Sheriff's Department. The prosecution of this case has been assigned to Assistant U.S. Attorney Elizabeth Altman.

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